

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-2 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 9/16/2009. Elected claims 3-6 are renumbered as 1-4 and allowed in this Office Action.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Douglas M. Grover on 10/26/2009.

Claims: **Replace amended and non-elected on record claims 1 and 2 with the following:**

Claims 1- 2 (Canceled).

Reasons for allowance

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

- Prior art of record does not teach or suggest or render obvious the claimed limitations in combination with the specific limitations as recited in independent claims 3, 5 and 6. The prior art of record fails to teach or suggest in combination of claimed elements including “accumulating by computer a finite-state machine of each counter of the multi-counter that corresponds to one or more pattern-amount pairs into the augmented finite-state machine to form a merged machine representing a plurality of single-counter finite-state machines each representing a different one of a plurality of counters and wherein at least one state of the merged finite-state machine each corresponds to a multiplicity of states each of a different one of said single-counter finite-state machines, including converting state values of states of the finite-state machines of the counters of the multi- counter into state-value lists of states of the merged machine, wherein at least one of the state value lists indicates a pattern value for at least two of the plurality of counters, and updating the merged machine with the state-value lists.” as recited in independent claims 3, 5 and 6.
- Applicant argument stated that Beesley has no reason to indicate which counter to update or values for at least two counters because each domain only has a single counter and counter information is not shared/updated between domain counters. Likewise, Dorst fails to teach state value lists where each state value list indicates which counter of the

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multi-counter receives which value for the state of the merged finite-state machine, wherein at least one of the state value lists indicates a value for at least two of the plurality of counters as required by claims 3, 5 and 6.

The argument is persuasive and valid.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sathyanarayan Pannala whose telephone number is (571) 272-4115. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Rones can be reached on (571) 272-4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

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/Sathyanarayan Pannala/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2164

srp
October 25, 2009